

2 Kings 7:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

Analysis

Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.

This verse contributes to the overall theme of chapter 7: God's supernatural deliverance and human unbelief judged. The reference to kingship reminds readers that all human authority is subordinate to God's ultimate kingship. The prophetic ministry served as God's primary means of covenant enforcement, calling both kings and people to faithfulness. During this period, Israel and Judah struggled with persistent idolatry, particularly Baal worship introduced under Ahab and Jezebel.

The narrative demonstrates God's justice in judging covenant unfaithfulness while maintaining His ultimate purposes for redemption.

Historical Context

Historical Setting: 2 Kings 7 takes place during the Elisha prophetic ministry, approximately 850-800 BCE. The chapter's theme (Deliverance from Famine)

reflects the historical reality of God's compassionate provision through prophetic miracles while both kingdoms struggled with persistent idolatry. Archaeological evidence from this period includes royal inscriptions, administrative documents, and material culture that corroborate the biblical account while providing additional context for understanding the political and social dynamics at work.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does this verse contribute to understanding the theological message of 2 Kings 7 regarding god's supernatural deliverance and human unbelief judged?
2. What does this passage reveal about God's character, particularly His justice, mercy, and faithfulness to covenant promises?
3. In what practical ways should this text shape contemporary Christian thinking about faithfulness, worship, and obedience to God?

Interlinear Text

עָשָׂו יְמִים אֵת חֲנֹנוֹ כִּי יִאָמְרוּ	לֹא רְעֵעַ הָוּ אֶל אֵשׁ	תְּאַמְּרֵה	וְאֵת חֲנֹנוֹ כִּי יִהְבְּשֵׁה	וְאֵת חֲנֹנוֹ כִּי יִמְלְאֵה	וְאֵת חֲנֹנוֹ כִּי יִמְלְאֵה	וְאֵת חֲנֹנוֹ כִּי יִמְלְאֵה
Then they said	one	H413	to another	H3808	H3651	H587

יֹם	בַּזְהָה	יֹם	בְּשָׁבָת	הַיּוֹם	יְמִינָה
is a day	H2088	is a day	of good tidings	H1931	H587

וְמִצְאָה כִּי
הַבְּקָר אֲוֹר
תִּלְלָה כִּי
עַד יְמִינָה
וְחַכְמָה יְמִינָה
מִחְשָׁה יְמִינָה
and we hold our peace if we tarry H5704 light till the morning will come
H2814 H2442 H216 H1242 H4672

בְּ קָמָרָה בְּ יִתְהַלֵּךְ וְיִגְּדַּלְתָּה לְכָ וְיִגְּבַּא אָה וְיִגְּבַּר אָה וְיִעַתְּפָה וְיִעַתְּפָה וְיִעַתְּפָה

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 52:7 (Kingdom): How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

Philippians 2:4 (Parallel theme): Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

Isaiah 41:27 (Good): The first shall say to Zion, Behold, behold them: and I will give to Jerusalem one that bringeth good tidings.

Nahum 1:15 (Peace): Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

2 Kings 7:3 (Parallel theme): And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?

Numbers 32:23 (Parallel theme): But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

